DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has not yet submitted its final report on the enquiry/investigation started by it regarding alleged financial irregularities in the case of National Open School.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Pak Foreign Minister's Willingness to Hold Talks

3782. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan Foreign Minister has expressed willingness to hold talks on Kashmir issue under the Simla accord; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Foreign Minister of Pakistan in his letter of felicitations to our External Affairs Minister on his assumption of office stated that he hoped that India and Pakistan would work together to resolve the outstanding issues between the two countries.

(b) External Affairs Minister in his reply said that India would endeavour to establish a relationship based on friendship and cooperation with Pakistan. He suggested that the officials of the two countries should meet soon to address bilateral issues. Pakistan's response is awaited.

[Translation]

Pension Scheme for Ex-Servicemen

3783. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have introduced or propose to introduce any pension scheme for the veteran ex-servicemen or for the widows of the soldiers of 'Azad Hind Fauz' who had fought for the country during the Second World War;

(b) whether several representation have been received by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide all those facilities to them, which are being provided to freedom fighter, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (e). Union Government has neither introduced nor propose to introduce any pension scheme for veterans of World War-II. Under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 widows of ex-INA personnel are eligible for pension if their husbands suffered minimum six months imprisonment/detention out side India while fighting against the British Regime for India's Independence.

2. Government have been receiving representation from time to time for grant of pension to World War-II veterans. The demand of the World War II Veterans for grant of pension was considered by the Committee on Remainder Problems of ex-Servicemen. The committee did not find the demand acceptable because pension could not be given without linkage to a minimum period of service.

3. At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for grant of facilities to World War II Veterans at par with Freedom fighters.

Medical Facilities

3784. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed a target to provide medical facilities to whole of the country by 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, whether according to a study conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research, only 15% of health employees are available as per the requirement in the Primary Health Centres established by the Government in the country?

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(d) whether Government are in the position of achieving the target fixed; and

(e) if not, the time limit fixed for providing medical facilities to all the citizens in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Preventive, Promotive and curative services are provided country wide on a population basis. Planning Commission lays down year wise and level wise targets under Minimum Needs Programme of the States. For the 8th Plan the targets to be established so far are given in statement. At